

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00255 191601Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /092 W

----- 063719

R 191516Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1362

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 255

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: BOMBING PACE QUICKENS

1. RATE OF BOMBINGS IN NORTHERN IRELAND GENERALLY ON INCREASE SINCE BEGINNING OF 1976 AND ACCELERATING RAPIDLY THIS MONTH. PATTERN HAS ALSO CHANGED RECENTLY IN THAT PREVIOUS CONCENTRATION ON BELFAST "PRESTIGE" TARGETS IS BEING EXPANDED TO TAKE IN OTHER AREAS OF PROVINCE. OVER WEEKEND TWO MASSIVE CAR BOMBS PLANTED BY PROVISIONAL IRA IN VILLAGE OF CASTLEDAWSON COUNTY LONDONDERRY DEVASTATED TWO STREETS. THERE ALSO BOMBINGS IN LONDONDERRY, NEWRY, BELFAST, LISNASKEA AND OMAGH AND TWO MEN KILLED IN WHAT APPEARED BE PREMATURE EXPLOSION COUNTY TYRONE TOWN OF CASTLEDERG. TOTAL DEAD IN WEEKEND VIOLENCE FOUR.

2. PRACTICALLY IMPERCEPTIBLE INCREASE IN BOMBINGS HAS APPARENTLY NOT YET REGISTERED WITH EDITORIALISTS AND POLITICIANS IN THIS SEVENTH YEAR OF "TROUBLES". THE RETURN OF CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AND CONTINUING SECTARIAN ASSASSINATIONS BEING GIVEN MOST ATTENTION LOCALLY. HOWEVER IT CLEAR PROVISIONAL IRA HAS EITHER RETAINED OR

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELFAS 00255 191601Z

REGAINED MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY TO BOMB IN

SEVERAL AREAS OF PROVINCE SIMULTANEOUSLY AND THEY APPEAR TO BE LAUNCHING NEW CAMPAIGN. PRIMARY CONCERN EXPRESSED BY LOYALISTS AND MORE PRIVATELY BY MEMBERS SECURITY FORCES OVER ENDING DETENTION LATE 1975 WAS THAT BOMB EXPERTS WOULD BE FREED TO RETURN TO THEIR SPECIALTY. HMG CAN EXPECT MORE HARSH CRITICISM FROM LOYALISTS AND MORE "DEFENSIVE" ACTIVITY ON PART PROTESTANT PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATIONS. PROMISE OF SUMMER LULL IN NORTHERN IRELAND VIOLENCE HAS PROVED SHORT-LIVED.

SPICER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, BOMBING, CIVIL DISORDERS, ATROCITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BELFAS00255
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760277-0711
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760746/aaaabnxm.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOMBING PACE QUICKENS
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006